

Oak Street
UNCLASSIFIED



NORMAL HALL.

OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
Training Teachers
AT THE
**Fitchburg
Normal
School**







MILLER HALL.

The Fitchburg Normal School is housed in five buildings, representing a value of nearly a half million dollars. At this writing, May, 1908, it enrolls in the normal departments 177 students, and in the training department over 900 children. The work is directed by a faculty consisting of a principal and twenty-three instructors.

Miller Hall is an ideal boarding hall for students. It was erected in 1903 at a cost of \$50,000. It is lighted by electricity, heated by steam, and connected by long distance telephone. A night watchman is employed.

The rooms are arranged in suites, each consisting of a sitting room,



STUDENTS' SITTING-ROOM—MILLER HALL.

two sleeping rooms and a bath. Board, including light, heat, and washing, is four dollars per week.



SLEEPING ROOMS AND BATH—MILLER HALL.



DAY STREET TRAINING SCHOOL.

In 1904 the school was invited to send to the World's Fair at St. Louis an exhibit showing how children were used in the training of teachers. From there it was sent, upon request, to the exposition at Portland, Ore., and later to Jamestown, Va., and was in each case granted the highest



EDGERLY TRAINING SCHOOL.



OBSERVING KINDERGARTEN GAMES.

award. It has just been duplicated at the expense of Argentina, S. A., for the educational museum at Buenos Ayres. In this booklet the exhibit is partially reproduced.

The school offers five courses: An elementary course of two years; an advanced course of four years; a kindergarten course of two years; a course for college graduates and a course for teachers of experience, each of one year.

The student gives some time at the beginning of her work to observation in the kindergarten in connection with a brief series of lectures given by the principal of that department. Then she proceeds to grade one and here observes at least one lesson in each subject taught.



NORMAL STUDENTS PLAYING TRADITIONAL DRAMATIC GAMES—EXERCISES IN POISE AND RHYTHM.

She also studies and observes the children under the direction of the head of the department of child study and psychology. From grade one she goes on to grade two, then to three and so on through the



KINDERGARTEN STUDENT CONDUCTING THE MORNING TALK AND TELLING A STORY.



NORMAL STUDENTS OBSERVING LESSON GIVEN BY
A SUPERVISOR.

grades below the high school. Special arrangements are made whereby college graduates who desire may practice in the Leominster and Fitchburg high schools. The heads of the departments in the normal school



STUDYING NERVE SIGNS.



DOES TAPPING PRODUCE FATIGUE?

supervise the work in their respective subjects in the training school. There are also general supervisors, one for every two or three rooms.

Immediately upon entrance the student begins her work in psychology and child study and continues it until graduation. The department is in charge of an expert who also serves as consulting psychologist in the training schools. The illustrations show some of the phases of this work—the study of nerve signs by watching children who are attempting to sit perfectly quiet for one minute; the study of fatigue caused by tapping upon the desk



STUDENTS PLAYING WITH CHILDREN.

with the finger; playing with children out of doors, a regular exercise; and measuring and testing them at least once a year.

The student's first teaching is with small groups or with individ-



MEASURING AND TESTING CHILDREN.



STUDENT'S FIRST TEACHING.

ual pupils who need special assistance. This is usually followed by giving a well-prepared lesson to a group of children before her class.

At the beginning of the second year she is assigned to teach a room in the training school of which she



STUDENT TEACHING GROUP BEFORE HER CLASS.



ELEMENTARY PRACTICE ROOM.

is to remain in full charge for at least one-third of a year. The number of children in these elementary practice rooms is from eighteen to twenty-four.

Upon graduation from the elementary course at the end of the sec-



SUPERVISOR GIVING LESSON IN ELEMENTARY PRACTICE ROOM.



STUDENT TEACHER GIVING LESSON BEFORE HEAD
OF DEPARTMENT.

ond year, if her work has been above the average, she is invited by vote of the faculty to return for the advanced course, a post-graduate course of two years, the first of which is spent in teaching in a regular city school upon salary, but under the



ADVANCED STUDENTS MEETING WITH SUPERVISOR.



OBSERVATION LESSON IN NATURE STUDY.

supervision of the normal school. The number of children in these rooms is from thirty to forty-eight.

In the immediate vicinity of the school there are abundant opportu-



NORMAL STUDENTS DIRECTING SCHOOL GARDENING.



NORMAL STUDENT WITH GROUP OF CHILDREN
STUDYING INSECTS AND FLOWERS.

nities for the study of nature and for school gardening. This work is taken by the normal students who are later given practice in assisting and directing children.



NORMAL STUDENT WITH GROUP OF CHILDREN
STUDYING BIRDS.



MEASURING SUN SHADOWS.

The attempt at first is to bring students and children into loving relationship with nature, and so to arouse their interest as to make them intelligent observers. On this basis later scientific study is built.



WORK OF WATER AFTER A STORM.



DIRECTOR OF DRAWING GIVING A LESSON TO THIRD
GRADE PUPILS—OBSERVED BY STUDENT
TEACHERS.

Groups of children are assigned to normal students for out-door work in geography, to study contour, brook and river basins, erosion, to follow the path of the sun northward and southward with the resulting seasonal changes, etc.

Special attention is paid to manual arts, not only with normal students, but in all the grades in the training schools. Drawing, painting, woodwork, basketry, braiding, weaving and sewing are given the children, while in addition to these the normal students find opportunity for bent iron work, copper work, enameling, rug making, embroidery, etc. The advanced class of 1908 has held a fair, at which it



INSTRUCTOR OF MANUAL TRAINING ASSISTED BY
NORMAL STUDENTS GIVING A LESSON IN
BRAIDING.

has sold enough of this arts and crafts work to pay for a class trip to Washington.

There is a bill now pending before the legislature making an appropriation of \$75,000 for the erection and equipment of a building for the teaching of manual arts.

Every year more time is given in all grades to hand work. Special attention is to be paid the coming year to pupils in the training schools who cannot remain for the high school. Cooking and elementary domestic science are to be added for the girls and tool work for the boys, while all will spend more time upon



LEARNING TO APPRECIATE GOOD MUSIC.

the study of Massachusetts industries. This will give the normal students increased opportunity for study and practice in the manual arts and in that industrial education that is so rapidly becoming a large and essential part of the instruction in grammar grades.

Music is taught through all the grades in the training school and in the normal school. By this is meant not simply singing, but music in its broadest sense. In reading, the aim is not simply to get meaning from the printed page, but also to cultivate the taste for good literature, for the best that has been thought and said. So at the Fitchburg Normal School the teaching of music includes a study of its development



TEACHERS AND OFFICERS OF CLASS RECEIVING ON
MOTHERS' AFTERNOON.

and of the great composers; and aims to make students know good music and to develop their appreciation of it.

Every effort is made to interest parents. Each student teacher dur-



CHILDREN SERVING REFRESHMENTS AT A MOTHERS'
AFTERNOON.

ing her training plans a mothers' afternoon or a parents' evening, when an entertainment is given by the children, followed by a social hour and the inspection of school work.

At their last meeting the Massachusetts School Superintendents discussed the shortage of teachers, and the National Educational Association has a committee spending this year in the study of the same subject. Every young woman of good education, of refinement and culture, and of attractive personality, who fits herself for teaching, will find many good positions waiting for her.

To those who need financial assistance, the state offers aid to a limited extent. The Fitchburg Normal School Alumni Association has also established a fund for this purpose.

For detailed information concerning the school and its courses, and requirements for admission, send for catalogue, or write

JOHN G. THOMPSON, *Principal*.



ARTS AND CRAFTS WORK.



ARTS AND CRAFTS WORK.

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-URBANA



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